

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

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NOTES ON MAINE MAMMALS.

BY MANTON COPELAND AND ALTON S. POPE.

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For several years the writers have trapped small mammals in a number of different localities in Maine, and during that time certain rare or interesting species, infrequently recorded from the State, have come to light. It seems desirable to make some of these records available to those who are interested in the mammalian fauna of New England.

***Synaptomys cooperi fatuus.***

Brassua Lake. Two specimens were trapped by E. C. Pope, October 27 and 29, 1913, in a clearing overgrown by raspberry bushes in runs frequented by *Eutamias* and *Microtus*.

Grafton. On September 10, 1915, a female, containing three embryos measuring about 6 mm. in length, was taken in a sphagnum bog under the roots of a small spruce tree. Dr. G. M. Allen, who has kindly examined the skin and skull, makes the following report: "I have compared your *Synaptomys* carefully with the type series of *S. fatuus* and with Massachusetts specimens considered typical of *S. cooperi*, and should call the Grafton specimen *S. cooperi fatuus*. It is not quite adult, and it is peculiar in having the skull rather shorter in proportion to its breadth than what seems normal. In some respects it is intermediate between the two forms, but on the whole it is nearer *fatuus*. Its skull is not quite so narrow in proportion to the total length as in typical *fatuus*, yet not so wide as in *cooperi*; the postorbital margin is more like *fatuus*, *i. e.*, not so nearly at right angles to the axis of the skull. The auditory bullae seem small as in *fatuus*. The upper incisors, while not quite so narrow as in typical *fatuus*, are not so broad as in *cooperi*, and the same is true of the lower incisors. Altogether, the skull is much more as in the smaller form." This conclusion is in accord with that reached by B. H. Dutcher, who records a specimen from Mt. Katahdin "that seems, on comparison with material in the Biological Survey Col-

lection, to be intermediate between *S. cooperi* and *S. fatuus*." \* That *S. fatuus* really represents a northern subspecies of *S. cooperi* rather than a distinct species as originally described, appears to be unquestionable.

### **Microsorex hoyi.**

Brunswick. Seven specimens of this shrew have been taken on the following dates: December 9, 1907; January 11, 1908 (two); April 27 and 28, 1912; May 4, 1912; May 12, 1917. They were trapped in damp woods near streams, and by holes in a bank bordering a brook in an open field.

Topsham. One secured by a dog May 5, 1917, and examined through the kindness of F. E. Noyes.

East Andover. Two specimens taken December 17 and 30, 1915, by G. Akers and M. A. Howard.

Brassua Lake. One trapped May 7, 1916, under a stump in a clearing in moist woods.

Holden. We are indebted to W. M. Hardy for three additional records of *Microsorex* from Holden. Two were secured by him in January 1908, and one September 16, 1916.

As there appear to be but three published instances of the capture of the least shrew in New England, the fourteen specimens noted above are of considerable interest.

### **Neosorex palustris albibarbis.**

Although the water shrew is not so rare as the preceding species, there are few records of its occurrence in Maine.

Brunswick. Eight specimens have been taken on the following dates: October 22 and November 20, 1907; April 11 (three), April 20, May 4 and October 31, 1909. Several individuals of this series have been examined by Dr. G. M. Allen, who writes as follows in regard to their status: "The *Neosorex* are, as I had expected, a little intermediate, yet I should refer them unhesitatingly to *albibarbis*, with which they agree in their coal black coat, dark bellies, and in most cases the tail mostly or entirely black. Two, however, have the underside of the tail whitish nearly as much as in *acadicus*, and in two others the extreme base is whitish underneath."

Upton. One procured by Dr. W. C. Kendall and presented to the Lee Museum of Biology, Bowdoin College. Date unknown.

Brewer. W. M. Hardy informs us of the capture of a specimen by P. F. Eckstorm, March 3, 1909.

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\* Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., Vol. 16, 1903, p. 68.